

Bebras Brainboxes



Congratulations to Ollie from S1 and Matthew in S5 who have both secured the best score in South Yorkshire in the recent Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. Birkdale managed a very impressive 23 gold certificates in the competition - placing them in the top 10% of competitors for their respective age groups. Anyone interested in taking part in the prestigious Oxford University Computing Challenge in February 2021 can find details on how to train at <https://oucc.uk/>.

Spanish Success



Congratulations to our team of S3 French and Spanish linguists who were overall winners in a Business Language Champions event on Wednesday. They competed in a competition called On Doctor's Orders and were tasked with creating a children's story in the target language to communicate one of the WHO's key messages. Fantastic team work and a fabulous result. Felicidades!

Festive Fundraising

Thanks to the efforts of an enterprising S3 pupil, the senior school is supporting three food banks in Sheffield this Christmas. Pupils have been asked to donate a small Christmas gift for a boy or girl, aged 6-13 or a donation of a food or toiletry item. Donations should arrive in school no later than Monday 7 December and can be dropped off in form rooms or the Chaplaincy.

To support this year's school charity, the Golddigger Trust, the DT department have been busy producing decorations and have already raised £650. We are also having a Christmas jumper and non-uniform day on Thursday 10 December to raise funds.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 8 December

GCSE Drama Devised
Performance Exam – 4.30 pm

A Level Theatre Studies Devised
Performance Exam – 6.00 pm

Wednesday 9 December

S2 and S3 Reports published

U15A, U14A, U14B Rugby
(Birkdale "Bubble" Competition)
– 4.30 pm

Thursday 10 December

S4 Grades published

Christmas Jumper/Non-Uniform
Day

U13A, U13B, U12A, U12B Rugby
(Birkdale "Bubble" Competition)
– 4.30 pm

Friday 11 December

Virtual Senior School Carol
Service – 11.30 am

Term ends – 12.00 pm

Monday 4 January

S5 Mock Exams begin

Tuesday 5 January

Term begins

Clubs and Societies start

Saturday 9 January

11+ Entrance Tests

U15A, U14A, U13A, U12A
Football v Hull Collegiate School
(A) – 2.00 pm

S3 Bake-off Finale



This week saw the final round of the S3 Birkdale Bake-off with an inevitable Christmas theme. This week pupils produced Yule logs aplenty, some delectable fudge, mince pies, stollen, and petits fours. Shravan's seasonal chocolatey chunk; George's delightful nuggets of cake; Douglas' cream-infused leviathan, and Peter's proudly perfect pies were the highlights; however, nothing could beat Daniel's intricately decorated buns, and he walked off with the prize. After the holidays, it will be the turn of the S1 pupils to demonstrate their culinary skills, while the L6 are also keen to get in on the act.

Newton Society



The Newton Society was pleased to welcome Professor Nicola Morley from Sheffield University Materials Science and Engineering department as a virtual guest speaker this week. She talked about Magneto-caloric materials.

House Sport



House rugby reached its climax last week with final rounds being played in all competitions for S1 – S4. Well done to everyone who took part, full results have been published on the school website. House football also started this week with a fantastic afternoon's competition with S4 on Thursday.

It is always a very great pleasure and privilege to tell you about the achievements of our pupils both in and outside of their involvement at Birkdale. Please do not hesitate to contact me at prking@birkdaleschool.org.uk if you ever have any news about your child that you would like to have included in the bulletin.